

## CLARK EXPLAINS HIS OMISSIONS

Tells Why He Did Not Mention Reciprocity in Address.

SPOKE ONLY OF PLEDGES

He Favors Canadian Agreement, Calling It a Democratic Proposition.

Washington, April 5.—The omission of mention of reciprocity in Speaker Clark's speech of acceptance when he took the gavel to preside over the House of Representatives is the chief topic of conversation and speculation among members of both sides of the dividing aisle.

When questioned on the matter today, the Speaker made the following statement, prefacing it, however, by saying that he had thought of it, after he had concluded his remarks about Democratic pledges, he would have said something about reciprocity.

"The situation as to reciprocity in this House is a Democratic administration. In 1897 a Republican administration abrogated it. In 1911 a Republican President negotiated another one, and a bill was introduced to carry it out. All the Democrats in the House have voted for it. The President couldn't muster even a majority of the House Republicans for it. The next day he wrote a letter to Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, thanking him for getting it through the House. Then it was sent to the Senate, and they wouldn't even consider the matter.

Always Favored It. "The Democrats have demonstrated over and over again that they are in favor of reciprocity. Individually, I have been advocating reciprocity, not only with Canada, but with all the civilized nations of the earth. Everybody knows I know it already. It isn't new theory with me or a new experiment.

"During the whole time that the Republicans have had control for the last fourteen years, I have never made a speech about the tariff that I did not advocate reciprocity.

"When the President got to be in favor of it I am not advised. I know that Mr. Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, one of the ablest Republicans in the House, and the leader against reciprocity, in the debate in the House, declared it was a Democratic measure.

"I am as much in favor of reciprocity as I ever was. In my speech in the House on accepting the election to the Speakership, I spoke of reciprocity. The Democrats had promised in the last campaign in order to win the election, when I got through with that I quit, and anybody with good sense would be that was what I was doing and all I was doing.

Gives Democrats Credit. "I consider reciprocity a Democratic proposition. For the last fourteen years the Republicans have been appropriating Democratic ideas for their own use. After the last election, reciprocity is every enacted into law it will be largely by Democratic votes.

"The situation as to reciprocity is one of the queerest mixups in legislative history."

## "GAG" CRY RAISED BY REPUBLICANS

(Continued From First Page.)

a bill it is believed to stand more than an even chance of passage.

They're Getting Together.

Washington, April 5.—Progressive Republican Senators were given good representation on the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, which were appointed to-day by Sen-

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for Cullom, permanent chairman of the caucus. This fact is received generally as indicating the two factions of the Republicans intend to adopt tactics of conciliation.

The general understanding is that the Democrats of the Senate will be given a majority of the House. The President couldn't muster even a majority of the House Republicans for it. The next day he wrote a letter to Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, thanking him for getting it through the House. Then it was sent to the Senate, and they wouldn't even consider the matter.

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Washington, April 5.—President Taft to-day transmitted to Congress a message urging early action on the reciprocity agreement with Canada. He stated that he based this message upon the deference to popular sentiment and duty to the great masses of the American people. The message follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives: Transmitted to the Sixty-first Congress, on January 20 last, the text of the reciprocal trade agreement which had been negotiated under my direction by the Secretary of State with the representatives of the Dominion of Canada.

This agreement was the consummation of earnest efforts extending over a period of nearly a year on the part of both governments to effect a trade agreement which, supplementing as it did, the amicable settlement of the long-standing diplomatic and political character that had been reached, would mutually promote commerce and would strengthen the friendly relations now existing.

The agreement, in its extent and in its terms, is purely economic and commercial.

While the general subject was under discussion by the commission, I felt assured that the sentiment of the people of the United States was such that they would welcome a measure which would result in the increase of trade on both sides of the boundary line, would open up the reserve productive resources of Canada to the great mass of our own farmers, and would give us a broader outlet for the excess products of our farms and many of our industries.

Details regarding a negotiation of this kind necessarily could not be

made public while the conferences were pending. When, however, the full text of the agreement, with the accompanying correspondence and data, explaining both its purposes and its scope, became known to the people through the message transmitted to Congress, it was immediately apparent that the ripened fruits of the careful labors of the

commissioners met with widespread approval. This approval has been strengthened by further consideration of the terms of the agreement and of the support which has been shown by the people.

I am constrained, in deference to popular sentiment and with a realizing sense of my duty to the great masses of our people, whose welfare is at stake, to urge upon your consideration early action on this agreement, including the necessary ratifications of the representatives of the two countries bound themselves to use their utmost efforts to bring about the ratification of the agreement.

I have felt it my duty, therefore, not to acquiesce in relegation of the subject until the opening of the Congress, but to bring it before you in this session, in order that there shall be no break of continuity in the consideration of the subject.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. TAFT.

The White House, April 4, 1911.

Senator Cullom and the Foreign Relations Committee the rooms now used by Senator Penrose and the Post-Office Committee. The Finance Committee, which has other rooms in the Capitol.

It is probable the question will be decided after the committee assignments have been made and the attitude of the several chairmen entitled to Capitol rooms is learned.

Wendell W. Mischler, now assistant secretary to the President, is at work on a special assignment with the army and efficiency commission. When he has concluded that work he will become one of the confidential stenographers of the President at a salary above what he is now getting.

In the best positions provided for the President's staff, Mr. Mischler is now acting as a stenographer.

None of the old employees of the White House suffers under the new appointments, as they are retaining their salaries or retaining their present salaries.

Washington, April 5.—Announcement to-day that Secretary Hilles has made the appointments under the reorganization of the White House force provided for by Congress at the request of former Secretary Norton. Nobody has lost his place under Mr. Hilles, and only one new man comes in, Mr. M. K. Yoakum, who had been with Mr. Hilles in the Treasury as confidential secretary. Mr. Yoakum is made correspondence clerk at \$2,250 per year.

Rudolph Forster, for many years assistant secretary to the President, becomes chief clerk at a salary of \$4,000, a promotion of \$1,000.

Mr. C. Wagner and Mr. P. Webster, expert stenographers, are increased in salary.

The retirement of several Senators who had offices in the old library space, it is urged, offers a favorable opportunity for showing this generosity to the public.

Senators who had the offices were to give them up, but it is thought Senators who have been using offices in the Senate building would insist upon moving over to the Capitol, even though they succeed to the chairmanships made vacant by the retired members.

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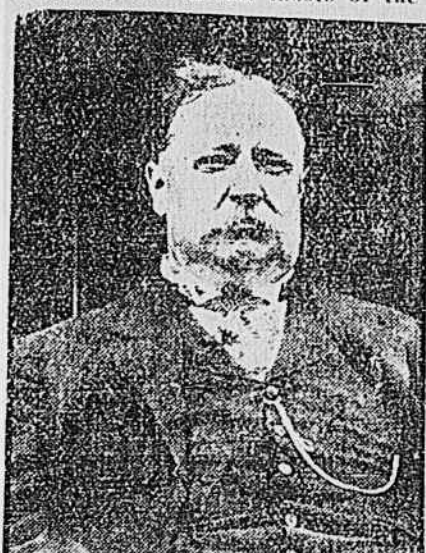
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